

REMARKS

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 3, 2005. Claims 1 to 3 and 7 to 18 are in the application, with Claims 1 and 16 being independent. Claims 4 to 6 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 7, 11, and 16 have been amended herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The title of the invention was objected to. A new title has been provided for as shown above.

The Examiner's objection to the drawings is noted. Applicant submits herewith a Letter Transmitting Formal Drawings in which Figures 16 and 17 have been labeled as --PRIOR ART-- as required by the Examiner.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that Claim 6 contains allowable subject matter. In keeping with this indication, the subject matter of Claims 4 to 6 has been incorporated into Claim 1. The additional changes made to Claim 1 are not believed to affect its allowability. Accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 16 has been amended to include features similar to those recited by Claims 4 to 6. Accordingly, Claim 16 is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

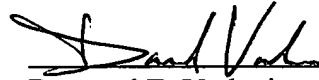
The dependent claims are submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 11, 13, 14, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,661,309 (Jeromin). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Jeromin. Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Jeromin in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0074929 (Taskar). Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Jeromin in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,818,898 (Tsukamoto). The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of the rejections, which are traversed, and strictly to obtain an earlier allowance.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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